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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Holcombe et al.) Attorney ref.: 25645-26
Serial No.: 10/756,989) Attorney Docket: 36502-05
Filing Date: 1/14/2004) Art Unit: 3749
Title: CONTINUOUS PUSHER-TYPE FURNACING SYSTEM) Confirmation No.: 3720
FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH- QUALITY)
UNIFORM BORON NITRIDE) Customer No. 46591

Commissioner for Patents
Art Unit 3749
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

Dear Sir:

The above-captioned application was filed January 14, 2004. Applicants received an communication from the Office dated April 26, 2005 estimating examination would occur within "0 months" and another communication from the Office dated June 29, 2005 estimating examination would occur within "1 month." That date now having passed, applicants respectfully inquire as to when examination might occur.

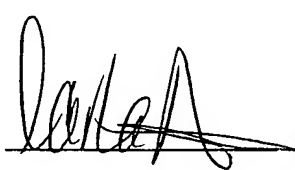
Respectfully submitted,


Joseph T. Guy
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August 17, 2005

I hereby CERTIFY that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope address to: Commissioner for Patents/P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Date:  _____

by:  _____